

coast of Brazil and the coast of Venezuela.

There is no doubt that officials here are worried over the Mexican situation. To what extent the disclosure of German activities below the Rio Grande are responsible for the hesitation of the Administration in dealing with Germany can only be surmised.

#### Remarkable Situation.

Certainly this hesitation has resulted in a remarkable situation. Last week Administration officials were encouraging in every possible way the idea that the President would go before Congress this week to ask authority to use the naval and military forces of the United States to protect American shipping in the German war zone.

Even today members of Congress were confidently expecting such a development within the next twenty-four or forty-eight hours.

Yet in the midst of this the word is passed out in Administration circles that the situation looks improved and that there is no certainty that the President will address Congress.

#### No Official Reason.

Whether this sudden change reflects the views of the President can only be surmised. Certainly no official reason exists, as far as can be ascertained today, for the idea that Germany is not going to sink American ships that enter the war zone, as she promised to do.

While it was denied at the State Department today that the Government has received any warning from Germany that that nation will regard as an hostile act the arming of American ships, it was evident that the State Department does not share any feelings of optimism.

#### Situation Unchanged.

Asked for a statement as to whether the outlook for averting hostilities seemed any brighter, a high official of the State Department replied with considerable emphasis:

"The situation is absolutely unchanged."

It is suspected in many quarters that the President may be holding up his appearance before Congress because of the steady growth of patriotic strength in the legislative body, feeling that in the absence of any "overt act" on the part of Germany, Congress might not be willing to give him the authority he needs to protect American shipping.

#### Flood of Telegrams.

To be sure, telegrams are pouring into the White House daily from all parts of the country urging him to do something that will relieve American commerce from the humiliating position it is now in.

All parts of the country are beginning to cry out against the tie-up of American shipping. In some quarters here, it is thought, the President may be waiting for these protests to still the pacifists in Congress.

In the meantime the effect abroad of the pacific utterances in Congress is becoming daily more evident.

#### Austria's Hopes.

Press dispatches printed this morning from Vienna, for example, lay stress on the hope among officials of Austria that the American Congress will tie the President's hands so that he cannot act.

State Department officials today frankly admitted their concern over this impression.

The Austrian embassy, in the absence of any severance of diplomatic relations between the two countries, is being given unrestricted privileges to communicate in code with the Austrian government.

#### Taken for Granted.

It is taken for granted that Count Tarnowski has not failed to send to his government copies of extracts from the pro-German speeches of Congressmen Mann and Moore, and the pacific utterances of Senator William Joel Stone, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

If the President is to seek any authority from Congress to protect American shipping, he has but a week to act in before adjournment. Apparently many of his advisers feel that he could not get such authority in the absence of an "overt act."

#### Admit Possibility.

State Department officials admit the possibility that Germany, thoroughly cognizant of the sentiment in Congress, means to withhold the "overt act" until Congress has adjourned.

In the meantime the growing tactics of the German government still go on. Yesterday the State Department received through the Spanish government word that Germany would "release" shortly the "captive" sailors and other Americans still detained in Germany.

When she will do this was left vague and indefinite in the dispatch from Spain. Meanwhile, it was indicated, the demand for the release of the Americans has gone forward.

#### FILES BANKRUPTCY PAPERS

Sisman-Cohn Company Would Pay 25 Cents on Dollar.

A petition in voluntary bankruptcy was filed by the Sisman-Cohn Company, of Twelfth and G streets northwest, in the District Supreme Court today. The company places its liabilities at \$27,732.25, and its assets at \$16,599.92.

Attorneys Tobiner and Graham are for the company as stay of adjudication and request that a reference of the company's condition be made to Ralph D. Quinter, referee in bankruptcy. The company submits a proposition to pay 25 cents on the dollar to its creditors.

#### WEATHER REPORT.

District of Columbia and Maryland.—Probably rain and warmer tonight, followed by clearing Tuesday. Fresh to strong easterly winds shifting to westerly tonight.

Temperatures.

8 a. m. .... 34  
9 a. m. .... 33  
10 a. m. .... 34  
11 a. m. .... 34  
12 noon .... 35  
1 p. m. .... 35

Light automobile lamps 6:20 p. m.

## ASSERTS MUSIC IS IMPORTANT STUDY

Dr. Cogswell Asks for More Recognition in School Curricula.

Music is ranked third in importance among subjects taught children in the schools, according to Dr. Hamlin Cogswell, director of music in the District public schools, who spoke to the District of Columbia Federation of Women's Club at the New Ebbitt today.

Dr. Cogswell said that the average child begins to take an interest in music from natural impulses during the second year in school.

The reason why more boys and girls do not learn music in school is because their parents permit them to become too easily discouraged, said Dr. Cogswell. If every child could be given twenty minutes of music in the schools every day, the results would be most surprising, he declared.

After the talk, members of the federation discussed advantages of the District offers to school children for music study.

Dr. Mitchell Carroll, secretary of the Archaeological Institute, spoke at the afternoon session of the federation of "Art, the Story Teller of the Ages."

Mrs. Mabelle E. Stearns gave a talk on "Music with Children."

## 2 CALL DEAD MAN HUSBAND

Second "Widow" Appears at Murray's Funeral—Police Called In.

HARRISON, N. J., Feb. 19.—Police were called in during the funeral here of William Murray, when it was learned that a woman had appeared at his home, saying she had married him twenty-eight years ago, before he wed the Mrs. Murray known here.

When the Rev. William J. Tilley, of Harrison, had finished the funeral service, the woman walked up to the coffin, and, pointing to the corpse, said to the friends assembled:

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is the body of my lawful husband, and there is his son." She pointed to a young man about twenty years old who had come to the house with her.

Two policemen stepped to her side and led her to a seat, and she left the house soon afterward. She said she had been married to Murray in 1888, and that they had separated in 1892. Murray was married in 1897 to the woman now his widow here. She has been seriously ill since his death.

## CHEATS GIBBET TEN TIMES

Life Sentence Imposed Upon Much Respected Negro.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 19.—Elston Scott, of Murphysboro, who escaped the gallows nine different occasions on respites given by former Gov. Edward E. Dunne, will go to the Chester penitentiary for life.

Acting upon recommendation of the State board of pardons, Governor Lowden has commuted the sentence of the negro slayer to life imprisonment.

Scott was convicted at Murphysboro in 1915 for the murder of Clara Dalton, a relative, and sentenced to hang. When former Gov. Edward P. Dunne was informed that a large number of persons were to be allowed to witness the execution a respite was granted. Eight additional respites were granted by Dunne.

Scott was sentenced to die February 16, and a petition for commutation of sentence was filed. Governor Lowden granted the commutation upon recommendation of the pardon board, the trial judge, and the attorney who prosecuted the case.

## FIND CLUE TO LOST GIRL

Parents Think Child Is One Who Tried to End Life.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—In a young girl, who was prevented from throwing herself under a subway train a few days ago, the parents of Miss Ruth Cruger, who has been missing almost a week, believe they have found a clue to their daughter. The girl, who was sobbing by an unidentified couple.

She is said to have declared she had been away from home two days, that "something terrible" had happened, and that she couldn't bear to return.

Private and police detectives have seized on the clue as a possible lead to the girl's whereabouts. Her parents believe she is somewhere in the vicinity of the subway station seriously ill.

## FOG OVER WEST WAR FRONT

Fighting Hampered, But Germans Reconnoiter Successfully.

BERLIN (via Sayville wireless), Feb. 19.—A dense fog over the western war theater greatly hampered fighting activities yesterday and last night, today's official statement said, reconnoitering operations being the only enterprise. Many enemy reconnoiterers failed because of vigilance of German trench troops, but a number of prisoners were brought in by German scouting parties.

The statement reported "nothing important" from the eastern front, and of the Macedonian front said: "There were skirmishes of outposts and isolated artillery fire. Two hostile aeroplanes were shot down."

## BENEFIT PLAY TONIGHT.

St. Patrick's Dramatic Association, including some of the most talented amateur thespians in Washington, will present "The New Curate" tonight at 8:15 o'clock in Carroll Hall, 924 G street northwest. The entertainment will be given for the benefit of the Holy Family Day Nursery at the Home Placing Bureau.

To Cure a Cold in One Day Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.—Adv.

## FIVE MORE SHIPS TO BRAVE DANGER ZONE

Ships Ready to Sail for Europe From New York—Some Now on Their Way.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Five more ships are about to be added to those whose prow are turned toward Europe and the submarine danger zone. The Atlantic Transport steamship Mongolia, the American freighter Algonquin, the Russian freighter Tsuyama Maru, and the French freighter Basque Terre, are scheduled to sail.

The Algonquin has not yet obtained a crew, and her sailing may be delayed. She clears for London.

Well on Way Across. The American freighter City of Puebla is today well on her way across the Atlantic, laden with contraband. She is bound for Genoa.

Sixteen ships departed for the war zone over Sunday, and twelve arrived. Among the latter was the Moreni, the first American freight ship to come safely through the zone. She came from Genoa.

Aboard the French liner Chicago, expected to sail today or tomorrow for Bordeaux, will be Lieut. H. K. Nygard and Hugo Sundstedt, of the French aeronautic corps, who have been in this country making tentative arrangements for an attempt to cross the Atlantic by aircraft.

## To Return in April.

They said they probably would return in April and lay plans for attempting this flight in that month. The Holland-American liner Ryndam is ready to sail without passengers. The Heilig Olav, of the Scandinavian-American line, already is ready to leave port.

## EUROPE MAY GO BAREFOOT

Shortage of Leather Sending Prices of Shoes Sky High.

ROME, Feb. 19.—"A barefooted Europe is not improbable if this war continues," said John P. Stucke, vice president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Italy and general manager of an American shoe machinery company, in an interview concerning supply and business conditions met by Americans abroad.

"At the present time a pair of heavy mountain shoes lasts a soldier but six weeks," he said. "These shoes have their heels and soles studded with nails at that. The shoes are largely made in Italy, but with American machinery and American leather, and the quality of the materials is the best we can furnish, but that quality is of course inferior to that sold before the war."

"When manufactured by the hundred thousand these shoes cost the government about \$4 each. But the supply is always behind the demand, since materials arrive very slowly from America. On one ship, the Palermo, which was torpedoed in the Mediterranean, off the coast of Spain, in early December, the material for nearly half a million pairs of shoes was lost."

"The retail shoe trade in Italy is now obliged to pay nearly \$7 wholesale for shoes that before the war cost \$3.50, and it is probable that American shoes will be selling for nearly \$10 and \$12 the pair."

## EXPLAINS WHY MEN DRINK

To Escape Life's Realities, Says Alienist in Thaw Case.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—"Men drink," said Dr. Menas P. Gregory, one of the alienists who declared Harry Thaw insane, "to escape the realities of life. And the only way to cure the drink habit is to divert the drinking impulse to another channel. A man can and will get drunk on religion, altruism, mysticism just as much as on whiskey, if you can turn his impulse in that direction."

"That is why drinking men who 'get religion' are so strongly religious. Their drink fervor has been transformed into religious fervor. All a drink cure can do is unpoison the system. It can't cure the impulse to drink. Alcohol has done much to develop the social instinct in man, but it has outgrown its use in that regard, and we should now have country-wide prohibition."

## \$6 A QUART IN OREGON

"Bone-Dry" Law Sends Price of Whisky Soaring.

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 19.—The high cost of drinking is a big issue in Oregon since the "bone-dry" law became effective.

Those in touch with the biggest thirsts in Portland say that ordinary whisky is selling through the underground routes at \$6 a quart. High grade stuff is going for \$10 and the price is rising.

## POSLAM QUICKLY CLEARS UP ANY PIMPLY SKIN

Skin broken out with Pimples is unpleasant to see, distressing to endure. There should be on your medicine shelf a remedy for this above all physical disorders. When it comes to a choice of rect nothing less efficient than Poslam.

Try Poslam; compare it. Know the intensity of its healing power, the rapidity of its action. It can serve you in many ways; from clearing an inflamed complexion overnight to eradicating Eczema, Acne and stubborn diseases quickly and for good.

Sold everywhere. For free sample write to Emergency Laboratories, 32 West 25th St., New York City.

Poslam Soap is doubly agreeable, doubly beneficial for the skin, because medicated with Poslam.—Adv.

## "YOU'RE GOING BLIND!"

Many people have found this true when it was too late. Eyes should be treated at frequent intervals. Our Dr. Baker, an expert ophthalmologist, will give you FREE consultation and examination. Free correct glasses will be prescribed, when needed, and properly fitted. Our low prices may be paid \$5 a week.

Castelberg's, 935 Pa. Ave.

## PIE PRICES SOAR AS MOANS ASCEND

Lunchroom "Snacks" Lose Class When Tale of Increased Cost Is Told.

Pie has gone up.

The death of the first robin inspires poems which bring tears to the eyes of a vivisectionist. The little dog, deserted by his drunken master on a cold and snowy night, causes children to wail and weep, and the demise of the faithful old horse, whose passing away leaves his poor but kind master without support, inspires speeches which draw enough money from emotional hearers to buy the carter a new horse.

And yet, was anything ever sadder than the rise in price of pie? Who hasn't stopped in at a restaurant at 4 o'clock a. m. and, with a dime in his pocket, confidently ordered "piece of pie and glass of milk?"

What school boy hasn't bought the luscious pie from the rear of the well-known pie wagon? Who hasn't shared his dime lunch by splitting a pie with his best friend?

But these are things of the past. Pie is going up.

The rise in the price of shoes made people buy cheaper shoes. When cigarettes went up, men began rolling their own. When collars joined the skoot skward in price, males took to celluloid ones or else wore one collar two days.

But pie! Who can buy cheaper pie than heretofore? And again, who can do without pie?

The three principal ingredients of pie are flour, sugar, and shortening. The prices of these products, it is said, have advanced 100 per cent recently. No one doubts that they have. Everything has gone up, excepting talks on peace.

Consequently, pie in Washington advanced in price today. Those which sold at 12 and 20 cents now retail at 15 and 25 cents. The 5-cent pies are going to sell for 5 cents still—but they won't be the same. They will be much lighter and less satisfying.

Sadder of all, the advance in price is only an indication of what may happen later.

Step up, Mr. Poet, and write a good, sobby obituary on pie.

## BARBER FOR 63 YEARS

At 83, He Says He'll Keep on Shaving Rest of Life.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 19.—Far past the time when barbers were members of kingly courts, but it is still a profession which can be followed honorably for many years—witness Charles Gramlich, a barber sixty-three years, and now eighty-three years old.

He was born in Baden, Germany, and came to America in 1849, getting a job at the age of fourteen and the "salary" of 10 cents a week.

Gramlich has shaved and hair-cut as many as the entire male population of Philadelphia, but he still found time from his work to learn to paint, and says he's painted more than 1,000 pictures and sold them.

His eyes are failing a little, and he has given up that for penicill, but he doesn't think he'll give up barbering, for he wouldn't feel right if a day passed without the click of the scissors in his hand.

And when some day the old razor veteran dies, he will know that the family trade is carried on, for he took care to train two of his three sons in it.

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The Bank of Personal Service

LET us help you to save. Deposit \$5 in our Savings Department and receive 3% interest on it for every day it is left there.

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Livingston's 908 7th St. N. W.

# The PALAIS ROYAL

A. LISNER HOURS: 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. G STREET

## Inauguration Preparedness Sale

The Sunday papers gave you pages of details, this evening's Times tells you of additional arrivals—details below:

Axminster Rugs Including Values to \$42.75 at \$28.75

Size 9x12 feet, Heavy Quality Seamless Axminster Rugs, Beauvais, Electra, Bussorah, Genesee and other well known qualities, in beautiful medallion and conventional designs. Such Rugs cannot be reproduced today at anything like the price asked for choice—\$28.75.

Congoleum Rugs 9x12 feet at \$5.45; 6x9 feet at \$1.95. Full size, new rugs that are sanitary and durable; the most economical floor covering made. In pretty body Brussels designs.

\$1.50 Stair and Hall Carpet, \$1.00 yard—Coronation Velvet Carpets, in new colors and designs.

\$1.25 Inlaid Linoleum, 60c sq. yd.—Choice of granite and tile effects. All two yards wide. Colors go clear through to the back. 2 to 15 yard lengths.

A Special Purchase For This Inaugural Sale Lace Curtains at \$1.45 Pair

Fine Quality Net Curtains, in the new square mesh; finished with two-inch hem and lace edge; 4 to 6 pairs of a pattern; choice of white or beige colors.

Also Lace Curtains at \$3.85 a Pair Value, \$5.00. Extra Quality Fine Voile Curtains with wide lace insertion and edge, others with lace motifs in corner and drawn work border finished with lace edge. Second Floor—New Building—Eleventh Street.

DRESSERS AND CHIFFONNIERS. A sale of Exhibition Pieces from Grand Rapids, Mich. Two as illustrated.

Many Others—on the Fourth Floor.

Dresser, \$21.75—This Plain Design Highly Polished Dresser, Mahogany Veneered Dresser on birchwood, like cut; with two top drawers, swelled front, 4 large drawers, with wood pulls. Size top, 40x21. Bevel mirror, 28x22. Sale price, \$21.75.

Chiffonier, \$19.75—Plain-design Highly Polished Mahogany Veneered Chiffonier on birchwood; has two top drawers, swelled front, 4 large drawers, with wood pulls. Size top, 32x21. Size mirror, 20x16; \$19.75.

Palais Royal—Fourth Floor.

Dining Room Suite \$169.75 Library Suites at \$32.00

Adam Period 10-piece Dull Mahogany Veneered on Birchwood Dining Room Suite. One Buffet, Drop Handle Pulls, 4 drawers, three small, one large; two cupboards, one on each side buffet.

1 Dining room Table, 6 feet long. 1 China Case, 1 Serving Table. 5 Side Chairs, boxed frame, slip seat, covered with genuine blue leather; 1 Arm Chair, upholstered in blue leather. Complete Suite of 10 Pieces for \$169.75.

Solid Quartered Oak, three-piece Library Suite, polished finish or fumed. 1 Settee, plain design, size, 19x54. 1 Arm Chair, 1 Rocker, all to match; covered in Spanish leatherette; Arm Chair and Rocker with spring seat.

Complete Suite for \$32.00.

Buffets—Extra Special at \$25.75

Colonial Style Quartered Oak Buffet, hand polished; has three drawers and large cupboard space; wood pulls. One drawer lined for silverware. Size top, 46x22. Sale price, \$25.75.

60-inch Quartered Oak Buffet, 3 drawers at top, 1 lined for silver; also drop door, with 3 removable sliding trays for linens and large cupboard space on each side. Also full-length linen drawer and large mirror, with heavy fluted columns. Sale price, \$75.

56-inch Quartered Oak Buffet, with fluted columns of a late period design; has large mirror, supported with heavy fluted columns; also large cupboard space, with a small running full length and two small and one large drawer, one lined for silver. Sale price, \$51.

62-inch Massive Mahogany Buffet, Napoleon colonial design; has large cupboard space, with shelf full length and two small and one larger drawer. Also large mirror. Sale price, \$67.

Fourth Floor.

Inauguration Preparedness Suggests Sheets, Pillow Cases, Bed Spreads, Blankets and Comforts

72x90 Bleached Cotton Sheets, overcast seamed centers. 49c each.

72x90 Bleached Cotton Sheets, extra heavy seamed center. 59c each.

81x90 Fine Bleached Cotton Sheets, no seams, wide hems. 85c each.

81x90 Heavy Pequot Bleached Cotton Sheets, no better made. \$1.00 each.

Silkoline-covered Comforts, cotton filled, small designs. \$1.25 each.

Silkoline-covered Comforts, cotton filled, good range of patterns. \$1.50 each.

72x78 Fine Silkoline-covered Comforts, stitched, very light and warm. \$3.00 each.

Large Double-bed Wool Nap Blankets, pink and blue border. \$2.25 pair.

Extra Large Heavy Wool Nap Blankets, very soft and warm. \$3.00 pair.

60x76 White and Gray Bed Blankets, pink and blue borders. \$1.25 pair.

Large Wool Nap Blankets, white and gray fancy borders. \$1.75 pair.

84x99 Extra Heavy Crochet Bedspreads, excellent, of good patterns. \$2.50 each.

Fine White Spreads, satin finish, with Bolster Shams to match, extra large, all cut corners and scalloped edge; unusual value; one-third less than regular. \$4.50 to \$7.00.

Heavy, Closely Woven Crochet Bedspreads, Marseilles patterns; big value. \$2.00 each.

THE BARGAIN TABLES in this Downstairs Store are daily filled with unusually good values—well worthy of a daily visit. The following on sale tomorrow morning—are extra special:

12 1/2c Outing Flannel, Special for Tomorrow 8c

You'll know by the weight and the appearance—that they are 12 1/2c quality. A limited quantity—of pretty blue and pink stripes and checks. While they last—at 8c yard.

10c Unbleached Muslin, Special for Tomorrow 6 1/2c

Today's market value of this Unbleached Muslin is 10c yard. Here today—the right is reserved to limit the quantity allowed each purchaser—at 6 1/2c yard.

59c Crib Blankets, Special for Tomorrow 39c

Three styles to select from. Plenty of the White Blankets with pink and blue borders. Sizes 38x58 inches—choice, each, 39c.